(a) whether Government is considering construction of a new bridge as an alternative to the old bridge over river Tista falling on National Highway No. 31, out of the budget for new bridge; and

(b) whether Government is aware that the bridge, on the river Tista on National Highway No. 31 that passes through Siliguri, Jalpaiguri, Cooch Behar, Dooars and North East has become very old?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Complaints received by NHAI regarding bad condition of roads under NHDP

2855. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many complaints has been received by National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) regarding bad condition of roads under National Highway Development Project (NHDP);

(b) the steps taken by NHAI for redressal of complaints;

(c) by when NHAI is going to resurface the existing highways of NHDP length in Gujarat; and

(d) the planning and time frame fixed by NHAI for resurfacing of roads damaged during the recent monsoon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) A number of complaints have been received regarding bad condition of various roads under NHDP from time to time. It was mainly due to damage of roads during monsoon season and poor maintenance by some contractors. Concerted efforts are made by NHAI for carrying out urgent repair work, re-surfacing, termination of contract of non-performing contractors and re-awarding the work etc. Provisions have been made in the operation & maintenance contracts to ensure that road is made traffic worthy and serviceable. Flood damage repair is also undertaken as and when required.

(c) and (d) Repair and maintenance is an ongoing process and roads under NHDP in Gujarat are being maintained in traffic worthy condition. Resurfacing is done generally once in five years.

Construction of bypass on National Highways around Jaipur city

†2856. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to heavy traffic on National Highways bypasses are required around Jaipur city;

(b) if so, the time by which the clearance will be given by the Government of India for construction of a bypass linking Ajmer-Jaipur road (NH-8) to Jaipur-Tonk road (NH-12); Tonk-Jaipur road (NH-12) to Jaipur-Agra road (NH-11) and Agra-Jaipur road (NH-11) to Jaipur-Delhi road (NH-8); and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.